

On page 7, line 6, both occurrences, please delete "B" and substitute in place thereof -- A --.

On page 7, line 26, before the abbreviation, XYL, first occurrence, please insert -- (1,6)-A→ --.

On page 7, line 25, before the abbreviation, GAL, please insert -- (1,2)-B→ --.

On page 12, line 8, after the word, locust, please insert the word -- bean --.

On page 25, line 23, please delete "(111)".

On page 25, line 25, please delete "(137)".

On page 25, line 27, please delete "(15-2)".

On page 25, line 29, please delete "(134-1)".

On page 25, line 32, please delete "(113)".

On page 27, line 16, please delete "(15-2)".

On page 27, line 18, please delete "(16-2)".

On page 27, line 20, please delete "(134-1)".

On page 27, line 22, please delete "(134-1)".

On page 27, line 24, please delete "(137)".

On page 27, line 26, please delete "(6698:12)".

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 9, 10, 12-18, 19 and 20.

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 1 (once amended) [Soluble b]Bulking agents [for use in edible formulations], comprising substantially depolymerized heteropolysaccharide(s) having an average DP of 3 to 75, which heteropolysaccharide(s) are soluble, naturally occurring, [and] have hexose backbone(s){.}, and are useful in edible formulations.

Claim 21 (once amended) [Soluble] The bulking agents of Claim 1, [for replacing up to 100% of sucrose and other soluble simple carbohydrates in edible formulations,] comprising an enzymatically depolymerized heteropolysaccharide(s) having an average DP of 3 to 75 which heteropolysaccharide(s) are derived from tamarind seed gum, galactomannan gum(s), or other naturally-occurring, substantially non-digestible heteropolysaccharide(s){.}, wherein the bulking agents are used in edible formulations containing about 0.1 to 100% sugar to replace up to 100% of the sugar.

Claim 26 (once amended) The formulation of Claim [24] 25, [further comprising] wherein the sweetener is aspartame or its salt or metal complexes, acesulfame-K, alitame, trichlorogalactosucrose, cyclamates, saccharin, fructose, neohesperidine, or mixtures thereof.

Please add the following new claims: